

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00 /018 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/ S- O: JRODES

4/24/73 EXT 21512

APPROVED BY: S/ S- O: RWRIGHT

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O 242304 Z APR 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077342

TODEP 157

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH

FOL TEL SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO LONDON MOSCOW PARIS BERLIN
NATO FROM BONN 24 APR 73 REPEATED:

QUOTE BONN 5870

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, GW, UR, NATO

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRG

REF: (A) BONN 4256; (B) BONN 5105)

BEGIN SUMMARY: FRG AND USSR HAVE AGREED ON MAY 18-22
AD DATES FOR BREZHNEV' S VISIT AND PLAN TO ANNOUNCE
THIS AT 5:00 P. M. BONN TIME APRIL 24. SOVIETS CONTINUE
TO MAKE PROBLEMS OVER BERLIN CLAUSES, SO THERE IS STILL
SOME DOUBT WHETHER VARIOUS PROJECTED BILATERAL AGREE-
MENTS CAN BE SIGNED WHEN BREZHNEV COMES. END SUMMARYM

1. FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR, VAN WELL, TOLD THE
AMBASSADOR APRIL 24 THAT INTENSIVE PLANNING OF A
PRACTICAL AND PROTOCOL NATURE COULD MOVE AHEAD NOW
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THAT A TIME FOR THE VISIT HAD FINALLY BEEN SET. IT WAS STILL NOT CLEAR WHERE BREZHNEV WOULD STAY WHILE IN BONN. THE FRG HAD PROPOSED THE HOTEL AM PETERSBERG BUT SOVIETS WERE DUBIOUS AND HAD NOT YET ACCEPTED, OBVIOUSLY BECAUSE OF HISTORICAL NOTE PROVIDED BY CHAMBERLAIN'S STAY THERE ON OCCASION OF HIS PRE- MUNICH MEETING WITH HITLER IN SEPTEMBER 1938.

2. TENTATIVE PLANNING IS TO USE FIRST DAY AND A HALF FOR TALKS. VAN WELL SAID IN THIS CONNECTION THAT FONMIN SCHEEL WANTED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE TALKS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE AND FOR THAT REASON WOULD DELAY BEGINNING HIS TRIP TO THE MIDEAST UNTIL MAY 20. FOR LATTER PART OF BREZHNEV VISIT, RESERVED FOR TRAVEL AND SIGHTSEEING, FONOFF PLANNERS HAVE IN MIND SUCH POSSIBILITIES AS VISITS TO AN AUTOMOBILE FACTORY, A NUCLEAR INSTALLATION OR A MODERN COMPUTERIZED MAILORDER HOUSE.

3. AGREEMENTS WHICH FRG HOPES TO HAVE READY FOR SIGNATURE ARE (A) CULTURAL AGREEMENT, (B) SCIENTIFIC/ TECHNICAL AGREEMENT, AND (C) SECOND ROUTE PLAN TO SOVIET- FRG AVIATION AGREEMENT. IN ADDITION, THE SOVIETS HAVE GIVEN THE FRG A DRAFT AGREEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE TWO SIDES HAVE EXCHANGED DRAFTS ON A LONG- TERM AGREEMENT FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION. THE CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC/ TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS ARE COMPLETE IN SUBSTANCE AND THE BERLIN CLAUSE IS THE ONLY OUTSTANDING QUESTION. THE LATTER TWO AGREEMENTS STILL REQUIRE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION, BUT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY, ACCORDING TO VAN WELL, THAT WITH MAXIMUM SUCCESS THE TWO SIDES MIGHT BE READY TO SIGN ALL FIVE AT THE TIME OF THE BREZHNEV VISIT.

4. THE MAIN PROBLEM IS STILL SOVIET FOOT- DRAGGING ON THE QUESTION OF BERLIN CLAUSES. THE FRG IS NOW APPARENTLY WILLING TO USE THE FORMULA EMPLOYED IN THE FRG- USSR ECONOMIC AGREEMENT OF MARCH 1972, BUT THE SOVIETS ARE INSISTING ON MAKING A UNILATERAL DECLARATION AT THE TIME OF SIGNATURE TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY HAVE AGREED TO THE BERLIN CLAUSE ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT

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THE CONDITIONS FOR EXTENSION TO BERLIN AS SET FORTH IN THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN FULFILLED. VAN WELL RECALLED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE MADE A STATEMENT OF THIS KIND WHEN THEY SIGNED THE ECONOMIC AGREEMENT. THE FRG HAD ACCEPTED IT AT THAT TIME, HE SAID, BECAUSE THE BERLIN AGREEMENT WAS NOT YET IN FORCE. NOW IT WAS UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE ITS USE WOULD MAKE IMPLEMENTATION

OF A WHOLE VARIETY OF AGREEMENTS BY THE SOVIETS
CONTINGENT UPON SOVIET ESTIMATES AS TO WHETHER THE
TERMS OF THE BERLIN AGREEMENT WERE BEING PROPERLY
CARRIED OUT. AS FOR THE FRG' S DESIRE TO NAME BERLIN
(TEGEL(IN THE SECOND ROUTE PLAN, THE SOVIETS WERE
BEING SO PEDANTIC THAT THEY APPEARED TO BE RETREATING
EVEN FROM THE POSITION THEY TOOK IN 1971.

5. VAN WELL TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE DISCUSSION OF
PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE BERLIN CLAUSES WAS BEING CARRIED
ON INTENSIVELY WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR FALIN BOTH BY
STATE SECRETARY FRANK AND BY VAN WELL HIMSELF. SINCE
THERE HAD BEEN NO PROGRESS, THE CHANCELLOR HAD AGREED
TO STEP IN AGAIN WITH BREZHNEV, PRESUMABLY BY LETTER.

6. COMMENT: WE ARE REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT THAT
FRG AND USSR WILL NOT LET A BREZHNEV VISIT GO BY WITH-
OUT CONCLUDING SOME AGREEMENTS AND THAT THEY WILL
THEREFORE MAKE A STRENOUS EFFORT IN THE COMING WEEKS
TO OVERCOME THEIR DIFFERENCES ON THE BERLIN CLAUSE.
HILLENBRAND UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE077342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: JRODES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730450/aaaaivmv.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BONN 4256, 73 BONN 510
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980129
Subject: BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRG
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, GW, UR, NATO
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005